

REMARKS

This amendment is responsive to the non-final Office Action mailed August 25, 2009. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-22 are requested.

Status of the claims

The Office Action reports examination of original claims 1-22.

Claims 21 and 22 are allowed.

Claims 5, 7-10, 13, 17, and 18 are indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

Claims 1-4, 6, 11, and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by Harrison et al., U.S. Pat. No. 4,682,125 (hereinafter "Harrison").

Claims 14-16, 19, and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Harrison in view of Duerr et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,294,886 (hereinafter "Duerr").

Claim amendments

Claims 21 and 22 are allowed, and are not amended herein.

Allowable claim 5 is placed into independent form including all limitations of base claim 1. Claims 2-4 and 6 are each placed off claim 5.

Allowable claim 7 is placed into independent form including all limitations of base claim 1. New dependent claims 23-25 parallel claims 2-4 but are placed off claim 7.

Base claim 1 is canceled.

Allowable claim 13 is placed into independent form including all limitations of base claim 11. Claim 12 is placed off claim 13 and claim 11 is canceled.

Allowable claim 17 is placed into independent form including the limitations of base claim 14 *but not the limitations of intervening claim 16*. Dependent claims 15, 16, 19, and 20 are placed off claim 17. Base claim 14 is canceled.

**The claims present patentable subject matter
and should be allowed**

Claims 21 and 22 are allowed.

Claims 5, 7, and 13 are each indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Each of claims 5, 7, and 13 are recast as independent claims, and accordingly are in condition for immediate allowance. Dependent claims 2-4, 6, 12, and new dependent claims 23-25 are each placed off of one of allowable claims 5, 7, and 13 and accordingly dependent claims 2-4, 6, 12, and 23-25 are allowable. MPEP § 2143.03. Accordingly, allowance of claims 2-10, 12, 13, and 23-25 as set forth herein is earnestly requested.

Claim 17 is placed into independent form including the limitations of base claim 14 *but not the limitations of intervening claim 16*. In view of the rejection of claim 16, Applicants understand that the basis for the indicated allowability of claim 17 is not predicated on the subject matter of claim 16. Accordingly, allowance of claim 17 is earnestly requested.

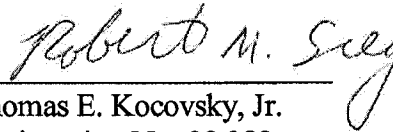
Dependent claim 16 is placed off claim 17. As a result, claim 16 has identical scope as originally filed claim 17, which was indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Remaining dependent claims 15, 19, and 20 are also placed off claim 17. Accordingly, allowance of dependent claims 15, 16, 19, and 20 is earnestly requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all claims 2-10, 12, 13, and 15-25 as set forth herein are in condition for immediate allowance without further searching and with only cursory examination. Accordingly, allowance of claims 2-10, 12, 13, and 15-25 as set forth herein is earnestly requested.

In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is requested to telephone Thomas Kocovsky at 216.363.9000.

Respectfully submitted,



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